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VENONA

USSR
[REDACTED]

Ref. No: [REDACTED]

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ARENA REPORTS CONVERSION WITH LACEY OF O.P.A. (1943)

From: NEW YORK

To : MOSCOW

No : 984

23 June 1943

VIKTOR [i]

The chief of the foreign division of O.P.A. [ii] LACEY [iii] in conversation said to ARENA [iv]: " [1 group unrecovered] has set up an interdepartmental committee on the reconstruction (rehabilitation [v]) of ITALY in the membership of which he too is included. In the opinion of informed people the Allies will not open the Second Front against GERMANY this year. One of the reasons is the fact that ENGLAND does not have available a sufficient quantity of barges for the landing of a large army.

[17 groups unrecoverable, including the serial number and signature]

Footnotes: [i] VIKTOR: Lt. General Pavel Mikhajlovich FITIN

[ii] O.P.A.: Given and repeated in Latin Spell: normally refers to the Office of Price Administration, but this did not have a "Foreign/Overseas Division".

[iii] LACEY : Not further identified.

[iv] ARENA : Also occurs in NEW YORK's No. 769/771 30 May 1944 [REDACTED] and 588 of 29 September 1944 [REDACTED]; Possibly [REDACTED]

[v] Given in Latin Spell.

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